

**Position Title**

Computer Engineer

**Organization**

MC / RANGE ENGINEERING BRANCH

**NASA Announcement Number**

DF13D0019

**Vacancy Type**

Case File

**OPM Control Number / Status**

337251200 / Posted

**Salary Range**

\$47,571 - \$83,126

<http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/337251200>

**Open Dates**

02/06/2013 - 02/19/2013

**Pay Plan - Series / Grade (Low, High, Potential)**

GS - 0854 / 07, 11, 13

**Position Information**

Full-Time / Permanent

**Duty Location**

061077029 - Edwards AFB, CA (2)

**Who May Be Considered**

This announcement is open to all qualified U.S. citizens.

**Citizenship Required**

True

**Job Summary**

Serves as a Range Systems Engineer (RSE) and/or a Test Information Engineer (TIE) for high performance flight research vehicle projects in the Range Engineering Branch (Code MC), to provide engineering services to develop or to modify telemetry antenna, Radar, command uplink and downlink, data distribution/recording/processing, and communication systems/capability/capacity for the Western Aeronautical Test Range (WATR). Involves gathering/analyzing/documenting requirements, planning, developing, installing, testing and troubleshooting of various data receiving/transmitting/networking/recording/calibration/ processing systems for the WATR.

**Comments**

No text available

**Marketing Summary**

NASA, the world's leader in space and aeronautics is always seeking outstanding scientists, engineers, and other talented professionals to carry forward the great discovery process that its mission demands. Creativity. Ambition. Teamwork. A sense of daring. And a probing mind. That's what it takes to join NASA, one of the best places to work in the Federal Government.

**Key Requirements**

1. A one-year probationary period may be required
2. Applicants must meet all qualification requirements by appointment date
3. Position subject to a pre-employment drug test
4. Position subject to random drug testing
5. This is a drug-testing designated position

## **Total number of openings**

2

## **Major Duties**

Duties are described at the GS 11 level.

Works with the WATR RSE/TIE Group Leads to serve as a technical liaison and as the primary contact to the in-house and external flight research projects and range customers; coordinate/implement and follow through all mission related engineering and/or control room related tasks; oversee all required configuration management process to insure all required NASA/Center/organizational guidelines/processes/procedures are being followed by all WATR engineering/operations personnel; and ensure all range and mission control center systems are ready to meet the end-to-end specific system/application/data needs of the projects.

Duties include gathering/analyzing/documenting customer requirements; performing system/data link/data analysis; analyzing/report in-house resource availability; participating in all phases of system/application development and testing; participating in development/test reviews; evaluating work completed by in-house/contract engineering/operations personnel; conducting and verification and validation (V&V) of system/application/display requirements; supporting real-time missions as assigned; and keeping management informed on progress of major range system/application development.

Through coordination with the WATR RSE/TIE Group Leads: providing technical advice to NASA/contractor engineering/operations personnel; and providing resource advice to project/WATR managers. Works with senior RSEs/TIEs to apply range engineering, telemetry, networking, data computing and/or other related technical knowledge to analyze and to recommend the requirements of multi-phase range projects.

## General Qualifications

To qualify for the GS-7 level, applicants must meet one of the following requirements in addition to the Basic Education Requirement:

- a. One year of appropriate professional experience at least equivalent to the GS-5 grade level; or
- b. One full academic year of graduate level education in an appropriate field, or any equivalent combination of experience and graduate study; or
- c. Completion of all requirements for a bachelor's degree which meets one of the following SUPERIOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS STANDARDS:
  - 1. Standing in the upper third of college class or major subdivision at time of application; or
  - 2. Grade point average of 2.9 of a possible of 4.0 or its equivalent for all courses completed at time of application or during last two years of undergraduate curriculum; or
  - 3. Grade point average of 3.5 of a possible 4.0 or equivalent for all courses completed in a qualifying major field of study at time of application or during last two years of undergraduate curriculum; or
  - 4. Election to membership in a national honorary society (other than freshman society) that meets the requirements of the Association of College Honor Societies.
- d. Twelve months of student trainee experience that includes at least one work period equivalent to GS-5 or at least 15 months of appropriate student trainee experience which includes one work period equivalent to the GS-4; or
- e. Successful completion of a five year program of study of at least 160 semester hours; or
- f. A professional engineering degree and up to 12 months experience as a technician or technologist equivalent to at least the GS-5 level; or
- g. Successful completion of all requirements for two bachelor's degrees, one in an appropriate field of science or engineering; or
- h. Six months aggregate of specialized experience or training, including three months gained after the junior year in a sub-professional, semiprofessional or technician status; or
- i. Honors or elective positions indicating leadership other than scholastic, provide that academic standing was in upper half of graduating class; or
- j. Patterns of courses which have unusual preparatory value or direct relatedness to the advertised position.

Examples of experience at the GS-5 level are working with computer hardware and electronic devices and data networking, data recording, data calibration, and data distribution systems.

To qualify for the GS-9 level, applicants must meet one of the following requirements in addition to the Basic Education Requirement:

- a. One year of professional experience in an appropriate field at least equivalent in difficulty and responsibility to GS-7 in the Federal service within or closely related to the specialty for which application was made; or
- b. Completion of all requirements for a master's or equivalent graduate degree in an appropriate field; or
- c. Two full academic years of graduate education in an appropriate field; or
- d. An equivalent combination of experience and graduate study.

Examples of experience at the GS-7 level are conducting functional tests of hardware systems to validate specified performance or software integration experience.

To qualify for the GS-11 level, applicants must meet one of the following requirements in addition to the Basic Education Requirement:

- (a) One year of professional experience in an appropriate field at least equivalent in difficulty and responsibility to GS-9 level work in the Federal service within or closely related to the aerospace technology specialty for which application is made; or
- (b) Completion of all requirements for a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent) in an appropriate field; or
- (c) Completion of three full academic years of graduate education in an appropriate field; or
- (d) An equivalent combination of experience and graduate education.

Examples of experience at the GS-9 level are developing or testing including hardware, software and data systems.

### **Educational Qualifications**

Basic education requirement (combine with appropriate grade level AST qualification statement) Basic Education Requirement: A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major study in Aeronautical Engineering, Aeronautics, Aerospace Engineering, Astronautical Engineering, Astronautics, Astronomy, Astrophysics, Biomedical Engineering, Ceramic Engineering, Ceramics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science\*, Life Science, Earth and Planetary Science, Electrical Engineering, Electronics Engineering, Geology, Geophysics, Industrial Engineering, Materials Engineering, Materials Science, Mathematics (Pure or Applied), Applied Mechanics, Engineering Mechanics, Mechanical Engineering, Metallurgical Engineering, Metallurgy, Meteorology, Nuclear Engineering, Nuclear Engineering Physics, Oceanography, Optical Engineering, Physics, Applied Physics, Engineering Physics, Space Science, Structural Engineering, Welding Engineering or other appropriate physical science or engineering field. Degrees in engineering technology are not considered to be qualifying for this position.

\*Note: Curriculum must include 30 semester hours of course work in a combination of mathematics, statistics and computer science that provided in-depth knowledge of the following: (1) theoretical foundations and practical applications of computer science, including digital computer system architecture and system software organization, the representation and transformation of information structures and the theoretical models for such representations and transformations; and (2) essential mathematical and statistical techniques. Of the 30 semester hours, 15 must be in any combination of statistics and mathematics which includes differential and integral calculus

### **Requirements**

U.S. citizenship is required.

## How You Will Be Evaluated

NASA uses an automated system (Resumix) that matches the competencies extracted from your resume to the competencies identified by the selecting official for the position. Based on the competencies you match, you are placed in one of three categories identified as 90, 80, or 70 pt. quality categories, which are defined as:

90 pt. Category - Tentatively meets (until subsequent confirmation upon referral) the basic qualification requirements identified in the vacancy announcement and has experience in the same or similar job that has demonstrated superior proficiency in the primary requirements of the position.

80 pt. Category - Tentatively meets (until subsequent confirmation upon referral) the basic qualification requirements identified in the vacancy announcement and demonstrates satisfactory proficiency in the primary requirements of the position.

70 pt. Category - Fails to meet criteria described in the 80 pt. category.

Additional application guidance is available in NASA's *Applicant Guide* ([https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant\\_guide.html](https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant_guide.html)).

Information for Veterans: The Category Rating Process protects the rights of veterans by placing them ahead of non-preference eligibles within each category. Preference eligibles who meet qualification requirements and have a compensable service-connected disability of at least 10 percent must be listed at the top of the highest quality category, except when the position being filled is scientific or professional at the GS-09 grade level or higher.

For the purpose of the Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) and the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP), candidates rated in the top quality category are considered well-qualified.

## Benefits

NASA offers excellent benefit programs and competitive salaries. To learn more about pay and benefits at NASA, click *HERE* (<http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/benefits/benefits.htm> target=\_blank).

## Other Information

Any applicant tentatively selected for this position may be required to undergo a pre-employment background investigation.

Individuals who have special priority selection rights under the Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) must be well qualified for the position to receive consideration for special priority selection. See 'How You Will Be Evaluated' for definition of well qualified.

Federal employees seeking CTAP/ICTAP consideration must indicate their eligibility when applying for a position. The USAJOBS resume asks you to identify your ICTAP eligibility; the NASA Supplemental Information asks you to identify your CTAP eligibility. If you are selected for the position, you must be prepared to submit proof that you meet the requirements for CTAP/ICTAP. This includes a copy of the agency notice, a copy of their most recent Performance Rating and a copy of their most recent SF-50 noting current position, grade level, and duty location.

As a condition of employment, male applicants born after December 31, 1959, must certify that they have registered with the Selective Service System, or are exempt from having to do so under the Selective Service Law.

In order to receive preference in hiring, you must clearly identify your claim for veterans preference on your resume.

U.S. citizenship is required. NASA's *Applicant Guide* ([https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant\\_guide.html](https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant_guide.html) *target=\_blank*) provides the information needed to assist you in determining whether or not you can claim 5 or 10 point veterans preference. You should not submit documents to prove your eligibility for veterans preference at this time. However, you must be prepared to submit proof of veterans preference (DD-214, and, if claiming 10-point preference, SF-15 plus proof required by that form) as requested by the Human Resources Office. Veterans preference will only be considered based on what is supported. For instance, if you claim 10-point preference, but are only able to document 5-point preference, you will be considered accordingly. If you fail to provide the required documents within the stated time period, we may withdraw a job offer and/or remove you from further consideration.

Your USAJOBS account asks you to assign a name to each of your resumes. When you apply to a NASA position, we will show you the text of the resume you have submitted, but we do not maintain the name you have assigned to that resume. If you wish to keep track of that information, we recommend you make note of it at the time you apply.

Identification of promotion potential in this position does not constitute a commitment or an obligation on the part of management to promote the employee. Promotion will depend upon administrative approval and the continuing need for an actual assignment and performance of higher level duties.

Travel and relocation expenses are not authorized.

Occasional travel may be required.

Any individual selected for this position must be able to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

### **How to Apply**

This vacancy is being filled through NASA STARS, an automated Staffing and Recruitment System. NASA partners with USAJOBS in providing a seamless application process. Before you begin the application process, please read the vacancy announcement carefully and have all required information available. You may begin the process of submitting your resume by clicking on the 'Apply Online' link.

In order to be considered, you must submit a resume completed on the USAJOBS site. When completing your USAJOBS resume, please remember that NASA limits resumes to the equivalent of approximately SIX typed pages, or approximately 22,000 characters including spaces. You will NOT be allowed to complete the application process if your resume is too long or if your resume was uploaded to USAJobs from a second source. Additionally, NASA does not accept documents attached through USAJobs' document attachment feature.

Once you submit your resume to NASA, you will be asked to complete a short series of additional questions. You must finish the entire process in order to have a complete application package and receive consideration. Your answers will not be saved unless you finish the entire application.

You may edit a previously-submitted application, if the announcement is still open. For more information, see the *Applicant Guide*. ([https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant\\_guide.html target=\\_blank](https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant_guide.html target=_blank))

If you are unable to apply electronically for this position, submit your resume and supplemental questions to: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Resume Operations Center, Mailstop: HS50, Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812. DO NOT submit your resume directly to the Center advertising this vacancy. Mailed resumes must be received by the close of business on the closing date of the announcement. Hard copy resumes requirements are provided at: *Hard Copy Resume Requirements* ([http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/howtoapply/hardcopyresumes.htm target=\\_blank](http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/howtoapply/hardcopyresumes.htm target=_blank)).

If you are a first time applicant, we recommend that you review NASA's *Applicant Guide* ([https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant\\_guide.html target=\\_blank](https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant_guide.html target=_blank)) to ensure that you are providing a complete resume. Failure to submit the supplemental data and a resume that contains all of the required information may result in loss of consideration for positions in which you are interested.

All applications must be received no later than midnight Eastern Time on the closing date of the announcement.

## Required Documents

NASA's application process has been specifically developed to ensure that we only ask you for the information we absolutely need to evaluate your qualifications and eligibility. In order to apply for this position, you only need to submit your resume and answer the screening questions and supplemental information. No additional documentation is accepted at the time of application. (For example you need not submit narrative 'KSA' statements; they are not required and will not be evaluated.) In this way we allow you to focus on preparing a resume that best describes your background and abilities. For assistance in preparing your resume, consult the *Applicant Guide* ([https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant\\_guide.html](https://resume.nasa.gov/applicant_guide.html) *target=\_blank*).

Nothing further is required until requested by the Human Resources Office. At that point, we may ask you to submit documentation to support statements made in your resume. For example, we may ask you to provide academic transcripts or proof of Federal employment status. If you are claiming veterans' preference, we may ask you to submit proof of veterans preference (DD-214, and, if claiming 10-point preference, SF-15 plus proof required by that form). If you fail to provide the required documents within the stated time period, we may withdraw a job offer and/or remove you from further consideration.

## Contact

Sandra Evans / / [sandra.s.evans@nasa.gov](mailto:sandra.s.evans@nasa.gov)

## What to Expect Next

Candidates for NASA positions are evaluated using our automated staffing and recruitment system, NASA STARS, which compares your skills and experience as described in your resume with the requirements of the position. If you are found to be a highly qualified candidate, you will be referred to the selecting official for further consideration. (In some cases, individuals with priority for special consideration must be considered and selected before other candidates.) Whether or not you are contacted for an interview depends upon the location of the position and the judgment of the selecting official.

At NASA, we pride ourselves on efficient and timely recruitment actions, and you can normally expect to learn the outcome of the selection process in a fairly short period of time. In addition, to ensure that you can measure progress for yourself, NASA provides you with regularly updated information on the status of the vacancy announcement.